

## Instructions for disposal of needles or lancets (sharps):

- 1 Read the California Waste Management Act Chapter 6.1 of Division 20 of the California Health and Safety Code to familiarize yourself with medical waste disposal laws in Los Angeles and the state of California.
- 2 Go to a Los Angeles County designated distribution site to get a red "Sharps" container and red bio-hazard-labeled bags. Distribution sites are scattered throughout L.A. County at Goodwill stores and senior citizen centers in West Covina, San Dimas or Sierra Madre. The Public Works Departments in Los Angeles, Redondo Beach and El Segundo, **the City of Burbank Recycling Center** and Sav-On pharmacies, located in Albertson's grocery stores, offer medical waste disposal bags and containers.
- 3 Discard blood-soaked wastes such as bandage dressings and swabs or plastic tubes containing bodily fluids in the red bio-hazard bags. Tie the bags shut. Place sharps such as needles or lancets into the sharps container. Keep the lid closed.
- 4 Drop you sharps containers and bio-hazard bags off at a collection site (see web link below for disposal centers) when they are  $\frac{3}{4}$  full. Sites include City of Los Angeles S.A.F.E. Centers, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health or the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Call 888-253-2652 to arrange for mail-back Sharps containers under the Mail-back Waste Disposal Program, if elderly or disabled.
- 5 Go to a distribution site to get a new container and red bio-hazard bag, or request another mail-back container and bag upon disposal of your old ones.

Location of S.A.F.E. for disposal of sharps:

[http://www.lacitysan.org/solid\\_resources/special/hhw/safe\\_centers/index.htm](http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/special/hhw/safe_centers/index.htm)